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### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims**

- Claim 1 (original) An isolated human EN-RAGE peptide.
- Claim 2 (original) An isolated EN-RAGE peptide having the N-terminal amino acid sequence shown in Table 1.
- Claim 3 (canceled)
- Claim 4 (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding EN-RAGE peptide.
- Claims 5-14 (canceled)
- Claim 15 (original) A composition comprising an EN-RAGE peptide or fragment thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- Claim 16 (canceled)
- Claim 17 (original) An antibody immunoreactive with an epitope comprising a unique sequence of EN-RAGE.
- Claim 18 (original) A ribozyme which is capable of specifically

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cleaving EN-RAGE mRNA in a cell.

Claim 19 (original) A transgenic nonhuman mammal whose germ or somatic cells contain a nucleic acid molecule which encodes an EN-RAGE peptide or a biologically active variant thereof, introduced into the mammal, or an ancestor thereof, at an embryonic stage.

Claims 20-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (original) A transgenic nonhuman mammal whose germ or somatic cells have been transfected with a suitable vector with an appropriate sequence designed to reduce expression levels of EN-RAGE peptide below the expression levels of that of a native mammal.

Claims 24-69 (canceled)